



PATENT
Docket No. 388402000900

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Kerry Keehan

EC
6/16/99
17/8

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Barry N. GARDINER et al.

Serial No.: 08/781,579

Filing Date: January 9, 1997

For: SUTURED STAPLE SURGICAL
FASTENERS, INSTRUMENTS AND
METHODS FOR MINIMALLY
INVASIVE VASCULAR AND
ENDOSCOPIC SURGERY

Examiner: Tina T.D. Pham

Group Art Unit: 3731

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Group 3700

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action (Paper No. 16) dated August 10, 1999 for which
a response was due on November 10, 1999.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 28, 48, 67 without prejudice of later renewal.

Claims 68, 71, 73 and 76 are withdrawn with traverse.